



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 6, 10 and 11 as shown below.

The following is a complete list of all claims in this application.

1. (original) A method for improving lung surfactant production in an individual with impaired surfactant production, the method comprising administering a leptin compound to the individual for a time and in an amount sufficient to enhance surfactant production.

2. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the individual is a mammal.

3. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the individual is an infant with an in utero development of less than nine months.

4. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the leptin compound comprises at least a biologically active fragment of leptin.

5. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the leptin compound is a recombinant protein comprising at least a biologically active fragment of leptin.

6. (presently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the leptin compound is administered in a dosage from about ~~0.1~~ 10 ng/kg body weight to about 100 mg/kg body weight.

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